

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II

290 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007-1866

January 5, 2012

OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

William H. Hyatt, Jr., Esq. K & L Gates LLP One Newark Center, Tenth Floor Newark, NJ 07102-5285

Re:

Diamond Alkali, Lower Passaic River Study Area

Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation

and Feasibility Study, US. EPA Region 2 CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009

Dear Mr. Hyatt:

Enclosed pleased find a copy of the EPA Region 2 Staff Statement of Position on the remaining issues that remain in the dispute resolution proceeding under the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, initiated by your letter dated July 25, 2011, on behalf of the Cooperating Parties Group ("CPG").

A meeting has been scheduled for 10 am to noon on January 13, 2012, so that Walter Mugdan, the decision maker for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") in this dispute, will have an opportunity to hear the CPG's views on the issues and ask any questions he may have. EPA staff will also be present, including Stephanie Vaughn, Marian Olsen, Pat Hick, Sarah Flanagan, and me. Mr. Mugdan has indicated that he will make a decision shortly after the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Flanagan

Assistant Regional Counsel

cc:

W. Mugdan, ERRD

E. Schaaf, ORC

R. Basso, ERRD

S. Vaughn, ERRD

P. Hick, ORC